

09/868832

JC18 Rec'd PCT/PTO 21 JUN 2001

Practitioner's Docket No.: 789\_070

PATENT

## IN THE UNITED STATES DESIGNATED OFFICE (DO/US)

PCT/JP00/07343  
INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO.20 October 2000  
INTERNATIONAL FILING DATE22 October 1999  
PRIORITY DATE CLAIMEDTITLE OF INVENTION  
BIOCHIPAPPLICANT(S) FOR DO/US  
Toshikazu HIROTA and Takao OHNISHIBox PCT  
Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Attention: DO/US

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*Elizabeth A. VanAntwerp*  
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## PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Prior to examination, Applicants wish to amend the subject application as follows:

## In the Specification:

Please replace page 14, lines 12-15, with the following:

Embodiments of the DNA microarray included in embodiments of the biochip according to the present invention will be explained below with reference to FIGS. 1 to 17.

Please replace page 39, lines 1-15, with the following:

In the embodiment of the present invention, as shown in FIGS. 16 and 17, for example, a first layer spot 80A, which is formed on the base plate 10, has a so-called doughnut-shaped configuration in which a peripheral portion 120 (see FIG. 17) is ridged, for example, by adjusting the discharge power or the like of the micropipette 34. Further, after the spot 80A having the doughnut-shaped configuration is dried, a spot 80B, which contains a different DNA fragment and which has a substantially circular planar configuration, is formed on the spot 80A. Accordingly, the spots 80A, 80B, which contain the different samples respectively, can be formed at an identical spot formation position. In this case, it is possible to